

REMARKS

In response to the pending Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 1-8, 12-14, 23, 25-27, 32, and 33(newly added).

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement. No unduly extensive or burdensome search would be required to examine the various claims of the noted Groups in the same application. MPEP §803 states:

"If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner *must* examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." (Emphasis added)

In the present case, the search for all pending claims together would not be burdensome.

Moreover, from the standpoint of costs to the Applicants involved in filing, issuance and maintenance fees relating to separate applications if the present Restriction Requirement is maintained, it is clear that there is substantially more burden on Applicants by imposing the present Requirement than on the Patent Office if the Requirement were withdrawn.

In addition, it is noted that to require the claims of the various Groups to issue in separate patents would result in inconvenience to the public by necessitating reference to more than one patent during searching, to review closely related subject matter.

Therefore, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is warranted.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are respectfully requested.

Also, new claim 33 has been added which is directed towards a control node that allows a defined wireless local area network (WLAN) function to be split between a wireless access point (WAP) in a WLAN and the Control Node, and is therefore drawn to the elected Invention

of Group I. Support for new claim 33 is found, for example, in claims 1, 23 and 32 and paragraphs [0057]-[0069] of the published U.S. application. (It should be noted that references to the specification and drawings are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the referenced embodiments). No new matter is entered.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that entry and allowance of claim 33 is warranted for at least the same reasons that allowance of claims 1, 23 and 32 is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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